(b) whether it is also a fact that there is good harvest of cotton this year in the country; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for which his Ministry are not allowing the export of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Cotton Advisory Board at its meeting held on 17th December, 1990 had estimated a production of 122 lakh bales of cotton during the 1990-91 cotton season against the production of 133.50 lakh baless during the 1989-90 season.

(c) During the 1990-91 cotton season quotas for export of 12.55 lakh bales of cotton have so far been released, including one lakh bale released through transfer and additional one lakh bale.

Introduction of Single Window Clearance for 100 per cent Export Oriented Units

1039. SHRI V.. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce single window clearance machanism for 100 per cent export oriented units and free trade zone in the country; and

(b) what are the other benefits which Government propose to extend to such units?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PUROSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) All approvals in respect of 100 per cent EOUs and EPZs are granted by Boards of Approval, seperately constituted for both schemes. With a view to facilitate single window clearance, all concerned Government Departments are represented on these Boards.

(b) 100 per cent EOU/EPZ scheme is periodically reviewed with a view to consider grant of such benefits as would make the scheme attractive to Exporters.

Decline in demand for indian goods in British and European Markets

1040. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late the demand for Indian goods in British and European markets have declined;

(b) whether it is due to the availability of better quality goods from China, Singapore, Malayasia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea and other countries; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government so as to make Indian goods competitive in foreign markets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PUROSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) No, Sir. In fact India's overall exports to Britain and European markets (both East and West) have actually been increasing during the last three years as will be seen from the statement appended.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is the continuous endeavour of the Government to facilitate increased exports of Indian goods.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990 (April-Nov.)
U.K.	1033.38	1164.89	1601.63	1349.42
West Europe	4362.85	5473.31	7660.76	5889.47
East Europe	2593.00	3356.00	5336.00	4034.00

SOURCE: DGCI&S, Calcutta.

Steps to reduce Fiscal Deficit

1041. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether leading economists have urged Government to take steps to reduce fiscal deficit, rationalise subsidies, privatise the non-core public sector to utilise energy optimally and improve tax administration;

(b) whether Government have considered these views; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The suggestions made by the Economists, as also by other organisations and individuals, are taken into consideration while formulating Government Policies.

Financial Assistance received from USAID

1042. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been receiving financial assistance from USAID and if so, what is the quantum of funds received during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the assistance given by USAID is not being fully utilised leaving huge amounts to lapse and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a high power committee to look into this problem of mismanagement and non-utilisation of available funds?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): USAID have provided financial assistance in the last three US fiscal years (October to September as follows:

Fiscal year 1988—US $ 22.23 million
Fiscal Year 1989—US $ 22.09 million
Fiscal Year 1990—US $ 15.47 million

(b) Assistance is provided on incremental basis towards projects being implemented with USAID assistance. The assistance is spread over the entire span of the project extending between six to eight years. Unutilised amounts would therefore remain each year until project completion. Implementation of some of the projects is, no doubt, behind schedule because of various reasons like non-availability of adequate counterpart rupee funds, exchange rate fluctuation, delay in land acquisition, etc.

(c) No Sir. As the progress of projects financed with foreign assistance is constantly being reviewed at appropriate levels both at the Centre and the States, there is no need for a high power committee to review the projects.

बड़ी निगमित संस्थाओं द्वारा लिये गए बैंक ऋणों की धनराशि को मुनाफाखोरी के प्रयोजनार्थ उपयोग में लाया जाना

1043. **श्री अजीत जोगी :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 20 नवम्बर, 1990 के "द इकनोमिक टाइम्स" में प्रकाशित इस आशय के समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि बड़ी कम्पनियों द्वारा लिये गए ऋणों की धनराशि को मुनाफाखोरी के प्रयोजनार्थ उपयोग में लाया जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ग) सरकार इस मामले में क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री और विदेश मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री दिग्विजय सिंह): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया स्थिति में सुधार करने की है।